

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 09625 190958Z

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ACTION HEW-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SCI-06 ABF-01 FS-01 RSC-01 DRC-01

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R 190905Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2776

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 9625

EO. 11652: N/A

TAGSQCV OSCI

SUBJ: DHEW/PHS/FDA/SFC - PROJECT 01-617-4, "AFLATOXIN
TOXICITY IN NON-HUMAN PRIMATES"

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 7645 (B) NEW DELHI 8667 (C) STATE 152171

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL
RESEARCH (ICMR), WE DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT PROJECT WITH DR. G. V.
SATYAVATI, HEAD, DIVISION OF SFCP, ICMR WHO TOLD US:

A. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL (A) IN ITS RECENT REVIEW THE MINISTRY
OF HEALTH (MOH) CONSIDERED 01-617-4 INSUFFICIENTLY RELEVANT
TO NATIONAL GOALS, SO IT WAS NOT CLEARED.

B. PROJECT 01-617-4 WOULD HAVE BEEN DISAPPROVED BY THE MOH
IF IT WERE NOT UNITED WITH THE PROJECT ON "MYCOTOXINS IN FOODS"
AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF NUTRITION (NIN). THE ICMR EXPERTS
VIEW RAMALINGASWAMI'S STUDY AS A PURELY "ANIMAL STUDY" WHICH WOULD
NOT MEET GOI NATIONAL PRIORITIES. A COPY OF THE NIN PROPOSAL AT
HYDERABAD IS BEING AIRPOUCHED.

C. THE SCIENTIFIC CONTENTS, OBJECTIVES, AND TOTAL
FUNDING OF RESEARCH AGREEMENT 01-617-4 REMAIN UNCHANGED, BUT
THE PROJECT HAS BEEN UNITED WITH THE NIN PROPOSAL TO SPECIFICALLY
MEET GOI PRIORITIES AND GUIDELINES AND DESIGNATED "COORDINATED
RESEARCH PROJECT ON MYCOTOXINS IN FOODS" UNDER SUB-TITLES:
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(A) "AFLATOXINS TOXICITY IN NON-HUMAN PRIMATES" (01-617-4)
AT ALL INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), NEW DELHI
(B) "MYCOTOXINS IN FOODS" AT NIN, HYDERABAD.

2. IF FDA INSISTS, ICMR WILL BE WILLING TO HAVE SEPARATE AGREEMENTS TO RETAIN INDIVIDUAL ENTITY FOR THE ABOVE TWO STUDIES AT AIIMS, NEW DELHI AND NIN, HYDERABAD SO FAR AS FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS ARE CONCERNED. ICMR ALSO SUGGESTED THAT AS SOON AS GOI APPROVAL FOR THE JOINT PROPOSAL IS RECEIVED, PROF. RAMALINGASWAMI'S PROJECT CAN BE INITIATED.

3. ICMR HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE DOLLAR COMPONENT OF THE PROJECT IS \$3500 AND NOT \$10,000.

4. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT DHEW/FDA GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THIS BUREAUCRATIC REQUEST OF THE MOH/ICMR SO THE SUBSTANTIVE WORK MAY BEGIN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD & DRUG REGULATIONS, IMPORT CONTROLS, AFLATOXIN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE09625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740194-0921
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740734/aaaabdbdr.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION HEW
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) NEW DELHI 7645 (B) NEW DELHI 866, 7 (C) STATE 152171
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Aug-2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DHEW/PHS/FDA/SFC - PROJECT 01-617-4, "AFLATOXIN TOXICITY IN NON-HUMAN PRIMATES"
TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005